

METHOD FOR OLIGOMERIZING OLEFINS TO FORM HIGHER OLEFINS  
USING SULFUR-CONTAINING AND SULFUR-TOLERANT CATALYSTS

5

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention is related to a method for oligomerizing olefinic monomers under oligomerization conditions to form higher olefins. The novel method comprises contacting a feed comprising the olefinic monomers with a catalyst composition comprising the reaction product of: (a) a compound having  
10 a formula selected from the group consisting of  $M[S_2C_2(R^aR^b)]_2$  and  $M[S_2C_6(R^1R^2R^3R^4)]_2$ , wherein M is a late transition metal,  $R^a$ ,  $R^b$ ,  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are independently selected and may be the same or different and are selected from hydrogen, electron-withdrawing groups and unsubstituted and substituted hydrocarbyl groups; and (b) an activating cocatalyst. The improved  
15 method advantageously relates to oligomerizing olefinic monomers from feed streams having contaminants, especially sulfur-containing contaminants.